

seeking office to represent the people of Poland;

Whereas during the ensuing years of communist rule, the people of Poland suffered severe hardships because of the communist-led government's failure to provide for the basic economic needs of its people;

Whereas under communist rule, Polish intellectuals, religious leaders, labor officials, students, and reformers were imprisoned and exiled for speaking out against a succession of increasingly corrupt, inefficient, and repressive pro-Soviet puppets;

Whereas despite the harsh repression of the communist-led government and the great personal risk they faced, the Polish people struggled for freedom by staging strikes, publishing underground newspapers, organizing street protests, and speaking out against the economic and political failures of the communist regime;

Whereas in August 1980, in the wake of a shipyard workers' strike in Gdansk, the Solidarity Movement was created as the first free trade union in the Soviet Bloc nations;

Whereas ultimately 1 in 4 Polish citizens became members of the Solidarity movement, which served as the driving force for Poland's liberation from communist rule;

Whereas on June 4, 1989, the Solidarity Party secured an overwhelming victory over the existing communist government in the first open election in Poland since the end of World War II, marking the fall of pro-Soviet rule in Poland; and

Whereas this victory inspired a succession of similarly peaceful transitions from communism to democracy in other former Soviet Bloc nations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 20th anniversary of the end of communist rule in Poland;

(2) expresses its admiration for the people of Poland for their bravery and resolve in the face of economic hardship and political oppression under communist rule;

(3) congratulates the people of Poland for their accomplishments in the years since the end of pro-Soviet communist rule in building a free democracy, and for their contributions as international partners;

(4) expresses its appreciation for the close friendship between the Government of the United States and the Government of Poland; and

(5) urges the Government of the United States to continue to seek new ways to enhance its partnership with the Government of Poland.

SENATE RESOLUTION 140—COMMEMORATING AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE DEDICATION AND SACRIFICE MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE SERVING AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KAUFMAN, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 140

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 900,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens as guardians of the peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front lines in protecting the schools and schoolchildren of the United States;

Whereas 133 peace officers across the United States were killed in the line of duty during 2008;

Whereas Congress should strongly support initiatives to reduce violent crime and to increase the factors that contribute to the safety of law enforcement officers, including—

(1) equipment of the highest quality and modernity;

(2) increased availability and use of bullet-resistant vests;

(3) improved training; and

(4) advanced emergency medical care;

Whereas there are recorded 18,274 Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty while protecting their fellow citizens, and whose names are engraved upon the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, District of Columbia;

Whereas in 1962, President John F. Kennedy designated May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day;

Whereas on May 15, 2009, more than 20,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, District of Columbia, to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who went before them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 15, 2009, as "National Peace Officers Memorial Day", in honor of the Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers that have been killed or injured in the line of duty; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe that day with appropriate ceremony, solemnity, appreciation, and respect.

SENATE RESOLUTION 141—RECOGNIZING JUNE 2009 AS THE FIRST NATIONAL HEMORRHAGIC TELANGIECTASIA (HHT) MONTH, ESTABLISHED TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF HHT, WHICH IS A COMPLEX GENETIC BLOOD VESSEL DISORDER THAT AFFECTS APPROXIMATELY 70,000 PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. BENNETT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 141

Whereas Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT), also referred to as Osler-Weber-Rendu Syndrome, is a long-neglected national health problem that affects approximately 70,000 (1 in 5,000) people in the United States and 1,200,000 worldwide;

Whereas HHT is an autosomal dominant, uncommon complex genetic blood vessel disorder, characterized by telangiectases and artery-vein malformations that occurs in major organs including the lungs, brain, and liver, as well as the nasal mucosa, mouth, gastrointestinal tract, and skin of the face and hands;

Whereas left untreated, HHT can result in considerable morbidity and mortality and lead to acute and chronic health problems or sudden death;

Whereas 20 percent of those with HHT, regardless of age, suffer death and disability;

Whereas due to widespread lack of knowledge of the disorder among medical professionals, approximately 90 percent of the HHT population has not yet been diagnosed and is

at risk for death or disability due to sudden rupture of the blood vessels in major organs in the body;

Whereas it is estimated that 20 to 40 percent of complications and sudden death due to these "vascular time bombs" are preventable;

Whereas patients with HHT frequently receive fragmented care from practitioners who focus on 1 organ of the body, having little knowledge about involvement in other organs or the interrelation of the syndrome systemically;

Whereas HHT is associated with serious consequences if not treated early, yet the condition is amenable to early identification and diagnosis with suitable tests, and there are acceptable treatments available in already-established facilities such as the 8 HHT Treatment Centers of Excellence in the United States; and

Whereas adequate Federal funding is needed for education, outreach, and research to prevent death and disability, improve outcomes, reduce costs, and increase the quality of life for people living with HHT: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the need to pursue research to find better treatments, and eventually, a cure for HHT;

(2) recognizes and supports the HHT Foundation International as the only advocacy organization in the United States working to find a cure for HHT while saving the lives and improving the well-being of individuals and families affected by HHT through research, outreach, education, and support;

(3) supports the designation of June 2009 as National Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) month, to increase awareness of HHT;

(4) acknowledges the need to identify the approximately 90 percent of the HHT population that has not yet been diagnosed and is at risk for death or disability due to sudden rupture of the blood vessels in major organs in the body;

(5) recognizes the importance of comprehensive care centers in providing complete care and treatment for each patient with HHT;

(6) recognizes that stroke, lung, and brain hemorrhages can be prevented through early diagnosis, screening, and treatment of HHT;

(7) recognizes severe hemorrhages in the nose and gastrointestinal tract can be controlled through intervention, and that heart failure can be managed through proper diagnosis of HHT and treatments;

(8) recognizes that a leading medical and academic institution estimated that \$6,600,000,000 of 1-time health care costs can be saved through aggressive management of HHT in the at-risk population; and

(9) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe and support the month through appropriate programs and activities that promote public awareness of HHT and potential treatments for it.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1058. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 627, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan, and for other purposes.

SA 1059. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. SANDERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.